

# GOSPA VERA

FRANCE BEVK

(Nadaljevanje)

Kolikokrat je trepetala zanj, da se mu kaj ne pripeti. Kadar je brala litanije samomorov v listih, je pomisila na svojega moža in nase. Ta hip je sedla v spodnji obleki na rob postele in vse mogoče in nemogoče je šlo kot v dolgi procesiji mimo nje.

Ni muko so se njene misli za hip utrgale sedanosti in bežala nazaj. Ustvarile so slike preteklosti, sedanost jih je s čudo-vito lujo obsevala.

Kaj je bilo vse, kar se je do tistega hipu zgodilo, same dekliške sanje?

Gospa Vera se je zagledala v sijaju svojega poročnega dne. Bela obleka in bel venec. Praznični svatje, godbe in pokanje možnarjev. Okrašena cerkev, petje, svečen glas duhovnika in svetov obreda.

Pokleknila je pred oltar, poleg nje je pokleknil njen zaročenec. Bil je bled, resen. Kadar koli jo je pogledal, se je bridko resno nasmehnil.

Kaj je pomenil ta njegov brid-koresni nasmeh? Kaj njegova pelinova bridkost? Vera je posmisila, da je nazaj. Trudno je napela možgane, ni se mogla natancno domisliti.

Domisnila se je živo le svojih tedanjih sanj. Trepelanja, ki je šlo skozi njeno telo, nemira ženske, ki stoji pred zgrinjalom novega življenja, komaj slutenih, neodgrnjeneh tajnosti. Bojažni pred tem življenjem in strahu, da se ji obet obljubljene sreče še v zadnjem trenutku ne odmaknejo.

Ko je zdrknil poročni prstan na prst njene roke, je padla ena teža s srca, druga se je našla nanj. Kaj ste, dekliške sanje? Kaj je bila Verina ljubezen?

Občutila je živo, da jo on resnično ljubi. Če ga je ona ljubila, si ni znala odgovoriti do tistega dne. Tega odgovora si je bila dolžna na veke. Bilo ji je, kakor da jo je premagala trdovravnost njegove ljubezni. Njeno nagnjenje do njega je izviralo bolj iz razuma nego iz srca. Bila je v srcu komaj iskrica, ki v zakonu vzgori v tisto mero ljubezni, ki je za življenje neobhodno potrebna...

Vera se je stresnila ob pogledu vase. Spomnila se je čustva do lepega kmečkega mladencja. Ogenj, ki je bil takrat v nji, do tiste minute ni popolnoma ugasnil. Premagovala se je. Spomnila se je, da ji je v noči pred poroko neprestano lebdela pred očmi podoba tega mladencja. Vzdihovala je v dušni bolečini: kaj bo iz tega? In vendar ga je odklonila le radi tega, ker ni marala trpeti in delati.

Ko ji je teta na poročno justro devala venec na glavo, ji je dejala karajoče: "Neumnica. Ljubezen pride. Ljubezen in sreča tem, kjer je kruh."

Njena predstava o zakonu je dobila svojo določeno obliko. Med njo in možem je nerazdržljiva vez kot trajna pogodba med gospodarjem, ker potrebuje služabnika za svojo srečo, in med hlapcem, ki radi ljubezni potrebuje gospodarja, da mu vdano služi. In ona? Ona mu izkazuje spoštovanje in hvaljenost za svojo srečo.

To je vse! To je neskončnost zmote. V njeni življenju se je odprla ogromna praznотa, ki je bila še strašnejša ob dejstvu, da nista imela otrok. Njegovo življenje sta izpolnjevala ljubezen in delo. A ona, ona?

Vse dni je med štirimi stenami, vse dni je razmišljala v enoličnosti svojega življenja, prvi vetrček je zrušil vse... In vendar sta nerazdržljiva, večno zvezana. Strašno! Strašno!...

(Dalje prihodnjie)

# ENAKOPRAVNOST

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# ENGLISH SECTION

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JANUARY 24, 1944

## Suggestions To Income Tax Payers

By Marian Mihaljević

In my twenty years of Income Tax experience, I have never come across one that is more complicated, than the 1943 returns. Therefore, I will take the liberty of making a few recommendations and suggestions to all the workers and to all property and business owners.

1. Consider your Income Tax your private business.

2. Never go to your Income Tax man, unless you have with you the following: Form 1040A or 1040, Form 1125 which will come with your 1040 or 1040A Forms, Form W-2 which your employer should give to you. When you get all this and your Social Security number, you may proceed to make your income tax.

3. Property owners should in all instances this year be very careful to whom they trust their returns. There can be as much as \$300 or \$500 difference in your income tax, if the same is not properly filled out. The same thing holds true for any kind of business.

4. Property and business owners should have ready: gross income of business or property. Gross paid out for merchandise, for labor, gas and oil and truck operating expenses, insurance, heat and light, telephone and all other expenses connected with operating business. If you do this, you will save a lot of time to the man who makes your returns. In regards to rental property, please bear in mind the following: If you are an owner of a two family house and you live in one suite, you must keep separate accounts of all your expenses, such as: remodeling, repairs, decorating, it. Only then can you proceed and other incidentals with the to make your Income Tax Re-lookup of property. Bring in turns.

## March of Dimes Campaign



Young Louise Hodgson wrote a letter... and the American people replied through the annual March of Dimes. Louise wanted a chance to make her own way, work for her own living. Now she will have that chance. Here she is shown on her way to the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation for treatments that will help her fight Infantile Paralysis.

The March of Dimes, the chance of the "common man" to help relieve human suffering, today is making its 1944 appeal. From now until January 30th, the birthday of President Roosevelt, himself a former victim of infantile paralysis, the citizens of every community

have the opportunity to do their share in the fight against this crippling disease.

Infantile paralysis is no re-

spector of persons; it strikes

rich and poor, alike, leaving its

mark on the helpless victim.

Yet, through the research and

the educational work of the

National Foundation for Infan-

tile Paralysis, the menace of

this enemy on the home front

gradually is being reduced. The

March of Dimes insures that

this progress will be continued.

The March of Dimes is your chance to relieve human suffering. Give now! Give generously! Give all you can! Join the March of Dimes!

## Now for the KNOCKOUT!



## Have you done your part in the

YOUR gallant fighting men are giving all they've got to put over the knockout blow. But you must do your share to back them up.

Help your company meet its quota. Display the 4th War Loan emblem at home. Do this and you'll help your country... help yourself.

4th  
WAR  
LOAN?

This is an official U. S. Treasury advertisement prepared under the auspices of Treasury Department and War Advertising Council.

Let's ALL BACK THE ATTACK!

# NIKOLA TESLA

Great Yugoslav-American Scientist

(Continuation)

What more can one say of Tesla? Just by taking short excerpts written by some of our most famous people, by people who knew Tesla, by people who understood his work and his amazing ability one could go on for columns and columns, for issues and issues but let me just quote from a message he wrote in April 1942 to his "brothers in America": "President Roosevelt and war-production chief Donald Nelson have again directed an appeal to the American people—to workers and employers—to fulfill as much as possible the projected plan of production of war materials. On that depend the success and resistance and millions of lives in conquered nations. It is the duty of every honest man to respond to the call of the great American President, one of the greatest geniuses in hundreds of years. But in order to answer that call there must be complete unity among us. Any conflict among those who are called upon to contribute their utmost, destroys our common war effort and gives assistance to the forces of evil.

"Therefore, brothers and sisters, as the oldest Serb, Yugoslav and American of our blood in the United States, I am sending this letter to you urging you to answer the call of President Roosevelt. The deeds of our brothers in the old country are worthy of the spirit which permeates our folk-lore. What spiritual strength, unbreakable determination, fearlessness, and heroism belong to our still undeveloped boys who joyously shouted, while facing German guns: "We are Serbian children, Shoot!"... The glorious martyrs will live for centuries in our memories inspiring us to immortal deeds.

"Let us not allow that greatness to be minimized through the spreading of hatred—not against the forces of evil—but against our own brothers. The destiny of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes in the old country is indivisible no matter what the enemy might attempt to do. United we appear more powerful and more noble. United we can fulfill our duty toward the martyrdom of our people, toward America, toward humanity. Whoever works differently is not on the right road."

One of my favorite Tesla quotations is:

"Behold the dark threat veiled in words of flame One child in misery is a nation's shame!"

Yes, Tesla was a great Yugoslav-American scientist and it was most gratifying to learn that the Maritime Commission of the United States had decided to name a liberty ship "Nikola Tesla" in his honor. When Admiral Land notified Tesla's nephew, Dr. Sava N. Kosan-

Anne Traven

